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Slovakia Grain and Feed Crop Situation Update 2004

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Report Highlights:

Total grain production is estimated to be at around 2.9 million MT in 2004, up by 54 percent compared to last year. Due to this year's favorable weather, average yields are expected to be higher for all commodities. Almost 50 percent of grain production is used as feed; 28 percent goes to food use; 16 percent goes to exports. In 2005, malt, wheat, and cornstarch exports are expected to increase.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Vienna [AU1]

Production

According to the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic, total grain production is estimated to be at around 2.9 million MT, up by 54 percent in 2004 compared to last year. This is due to this year's favorable weather conditions, especially sufficient rainfalls and moderate spring temperatures. Average hectare yield is expected to increase for all commodities. (see below table).

Expected Production of Selected Grains in Slovak Republic, June 20, 2004

	Planted Area (1000 ha)			I	Production (1	Hectare Yield (MT)					
Commodity	2004	2003	Index 2003 2002	Reality 2003	Estimate, June 20, 2004 (mean value and margin of error**)		June 20, 2004 (mean value and margin of		Index Estim.02004 Real.2003	Estimate June 20, 2004	Reality 2003
Wheat	369.4	308.4	119.8	930.4	1,721.9	Α	185.1	4.66	3.03		
Rye	32.6	25.3	128.9	62.3	115.9	Α	186.0	3.56	2.47		
Barley	223.6	269.7	82.9	804.2	911.5	Α	113.3	4.08	2.99		
Oats	25.4	30.5	83.3	57.9	66.8	В	115.4	2.63	1.90		
Triticale	18.4	13.7	134.3	31.1	70.6	Α	227.0	3.84	2.26		
Grains Total	669.4	647.6	103.4	1,885.9	2,886.7	Α	153.1	4.31	2.92		

Source: Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic

**Margin of Error:

A = up to 5%

B = from 5.01 to 10.0%

C = from 10.01 to 15.0%

D = from 15.01 to 20.0%

E = over 20.0%

Grains Situation

Grain and feed represents a significant share of crop production in Slovakia. For MY2004/2005, total sown area (including corn) is estimated at 821.8 thousand hectares, up from 800.4 thousand hectares in MY 2003/2004. (see below table).

Balance of Grains in Slovakia

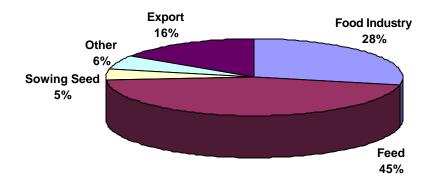
Indicator	Unit	Rea	lity	Outlook	Forecast
		2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005
Sown Area	th. ha	850.7	820.1	*800.4	821.8
Harvested Area	th. ha	825.6	819.0	*794.0	
Hectare Yield	MT. ha ⁻¹	3.89	3.90	*3.14	4.0
Production	th. MT	3,212.0	3,193.6	*2,490.3	3,319.4
Initial Stock	th. MT	429.5	496.6	*490.6	240.4
Import	th. MT	45.3	44.7	152.8	145.4
Other Resources	th. MT	0.0	0.0	89.4	0.0
Total Supply	th. MT	3,686.8	3,734.9	3,223.1	3,705.2
Domestic	th. MT	3,039.0	2,984.0	2,766.4	3,062.3
Consumption					
- Food Nutrition	th. MT	988.7	1,210.9	1,205.7	1,211.4
- Sowing seed	th. MT	163.9	132.4	130.0	175.2
- Feed	th. MT	1,585.3	1,437.0	1,320.4	1,456.2
- Other Use	th. MT	301.1	203.7	110.3	219.5
Export	th. MT	84.2	210.7	216.3	195.0
Other Expenses	th. MT	67.0	49.6	0.0	0.0
Total Utilization	th. MT	3,190.2	3,244.3	2,982.7	3,257.3
Ending Stock	th. MT	496.6	490.6	240.4	447.9

^{*} Reality

Source: Ministry of Agriculture SR, Statistical Office SR, Central Customs Administration of the SR, Research Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics

Grain Utilization

In general, most of the grain production in Slovakia is used as feed. More than one quarter of grain production goes to the food industry. The rest is used for sowing, other purposes (e.g. bio-ethanol production) and exports. There are no significant changes expected, only a slight increase in exports.



Source: Ministry of Agriculture of the Slovak Republic, www.mpsr.sk

Import/Export

Malt, wheat, and cornstarch products will continue to be exported. In 2005, higher grain production will result in increased exports.

Slovakia joined the EU on May 1, 2004, and U.S. exports face EU's tariff rates for products from third countries. EU tariffs can be found in on-line database TARIC accessible from http://europa.eu.int/comm/taxation_customs/dds/cgi-bin/tarchap?Lang=EN.

Slovakia's Foreign Trade with selected Grains in MY (Marketing Year) 2003/2004

	Slovakia Import Statistics From World										
Monthly Series: 07/2003 - 03/2004											
	Quantity (MT)										
Commodity	Description	VII.03	VIII.03	IX.03	X.03	XI.03	XII.03	1.04	11.04	111.04	
1001	Wheat	466	43	130	237	128	0	0	0	24	
1002	Rye	0	22	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1003	Barley	0	0	5,412	4,793	8,015	11,530	1,539	1,698	1,041	
1004	Oats	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	
1005	Corn	231	47	25	49	10	18	948	593	1,692	

Slovakia Export Statistics To World										
Monthly Series: 07/2003 - 03/2004										
	Quantity (MT)									
Commodity	Description	VII.03	VIII.03	IX.03	X.03	XI.03	XII.03	1.04	11.04	111.04
1001	Wheat	1,171	113	497	1,276	1,118	452	100	1,050	300
1002	Rye	75	0	20	0	0	0	C	0	0
1003	Barley	1,185	841	771	14,652	6,935	26,319	92	3,317	11,172
1004	Oats	0	0	0	243	187	1,717	C	865	2,498
1005	Corn	9,769	9,445	7,105	3,883	819	576	407	1,137	1,571

Source: Global Trade Atlas, www.gtis.com

Prices

Average Prices of Selected Grains by Producers (SKK / MT; exch. rate 1 USD = 32 SKK):

	Average 2002	1.03	11.03	111.03	IV.03	V.03	VI.03
Food Wheat	4,429	4,360	4,380	4,415	4,343	4,347	4,300
Industrial Wheat	3,731	3,664	3,729	3,704	3,725	3,656	3,691
Malting Barley	5,089	5,179	5,163	5,216	5,315	5,083	5,233
Food Barley	4,611	4,367	4,305	4,567	4,350	4,800	4,750
Feed Barley	3,797	3,777	3,835	3,809	3,771	3,788	3,768
Food Rye	4,242	4,200	4,164	4,421	4,375	4,267	4,150
Food Oats	4,634	4,510	4,750	4,780	5,110	5,000	4,800
Feed Oats	3,929	4,200	3,998	4,002	3,926	3,939	3,900
Corn	3,999	3,797	3,739	3,838	3,818	3,690	3,662

	VII.03	VIII.03	IX.03	X.03	XI.03	XII.03	Average 2003
Food Wheat	4,264	4,208	4,299	4,365	4,403	4,464	4,309
Industrial Wheat	3,731	3,686	3,711	3,777	3,756	3,808	3,718
Malting Barley	5,074	5,030	5,076	5,028	5,045	5,079	5,076
Food Barley	4,700	4,660	4,691	4,556	4,675	4,545	4,601
Feed Barley	3,763	3,600	3,619	3,676	3,690	3,750	3,700
Food Rye	4,263	4,236	4,274	4,247	4,179	4,219	4,245
Food Oats	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,397	4,200	4,567	4,672
Feed Oats	3,842	3,594	3,641	3,785	3,595	3,805	3,769
Corn	3,722	3,790	3,792	4,003	4,026	4,131	3,932

Source: Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic